

Message Text

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TAG PFOR, PL

SUBJECT MITREGA VISIT - FIRST DAY

1. FOLLOWING IS UNCLEARED SUMMARY ACCOUNT OF MITREGA CONVERSATIONS WITH SECRETARY MORTON AND ACTING SECRETARY RUSH (OFFICE CALL AND LUNCH). SUBJECT TO REVISION.

2. DURING MEETING MAY 13 AT INTERIOR WITH SECRETARY MORTON AND UNDERSECRETARY WHITAKER, MITREGA SPOKE EXTENSIVELY ON PRESENT STATE OF POLISH COAL INDUSTRY. HE NOTED THAT POLAND HAS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH SWEDEN AND IS ANXIOUS TO EXPAND AND DEEPEN PRESENT COOPERATION WITH THE US. MITREGA RESPONDED TO MORTON'S QUERY ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION BY STRESSING THAT MUCH WORK IS BEING DONE ON STACK GASES, WATER PURIFICATION AND ON FILLING OLD MINES. MITREGA POINTED OUT THAT LITTLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN
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RECORDED IN COKING AND ASSERTED THAT COKING AND CHEMICAL

RESEARCH FOR THE COAL INDUSTRY COULD BE FRUITFUL AREAS FOR FUTURE COOPERATION. MORTON AGREED THAT MUCH COULD BE LEARNED IN THIS AREA AND STATED THAT A GROUP OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS WILL BE PREPARED TO VISIT POLAND TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION IN FUTURE. HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF WORKING WITH US PRIVATE INDUSTRY WHERE MOST EXPERTISE AND RESEARCH PROJECTS ARE. MITREGA NOTED THAT THE POLES WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN COOPERATION TO

TO DEVELOP NEWLY DISCOVERED HIGHGRADE UNDERGROUND COPPER DEPOSITS. DISCUSSION THEN COVERED OTHER AREAS OF TECHNOLOGY INCLUDING COAL TRANSPORTATION AS WELL AS GASIFICATION AND LIQUEFACTION. VICE MINISTER NOWAK INQUIRED WHETHER MORTON'S COMMENTS CONSTITUTED A "BLESSING" FOR THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON MAY 14. MORTON AGREED THAT THE WORKING GROUP WOULD DISCUSS THE TOPICS RAISED BY MITREGA.

3. IN A BRIEF MEETING WITH ACTING SECRETARY RUSH PRIOR TO LUNCH HOSTED BY ACTING SECY, MITREGA REFERRED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF US-POLISH RELATIONS WHICH HAD BECOME MORE ACTIVE AND BETTER SINCE PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO WARSAW. HE SAID THAT HIS DELEGATION WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS WITH US OFFICIALS, IN ADDITION TO TOPICS RAISED WITH MORTON, AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH THE US AND GREATER FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. FURTHER, TRADITIONAL QUESTION OF PL-480 WOULD ALSO BE RAISED, AS WOULD THE GDANSK (DANZIG) GOLD ISSUE, (HE NOTED NEED TO CLEAR UP SITUATION ARISING OUT OF WORLD WAR II CONDITIONS AND NO FORMAL OBSTACLES EXIST FOR CLOSING THE MATTER). HE NOTED THAT THE POLES HAVE HAD TALKS WITH THE FRENCH AND BRITISH, AND IT REMAINS FOR THE US TO CONSENT TO SETTling THE ISSUE. THE ACTING SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT THE US SIDE WOULD BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUE AND ATTEMPT TO REACH A DEGREE OF UNDERSTANDING ALTHOUGH PERHAPS, IMMEDIATE AGREEMENT WOULD NOT ALWAYS BE POSSIBLE. HE NOTED HISTORICAL TIES BETWEEN THE US AND POLAND AND BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT. THE US WELCOMED HIGH-LEVEL VISITS FROM POLAND. THE ACTING SECRETARY AND MITREGA REFERRED TO THE CONTRI-

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BUTION OF AMBASSADORS TRAMPCZYNSKI AND DAVIES IN REPRESENTING THE TWO COUNTRIES IN RESPECTIVE CAPITALS.

4. ATMOSPHERE AT LUNCH WAS DESCRIBED BY ONE POLISH ATTENDEE AS VERY SATISFACTORY AND EVERYTHING THAT COULD BE HOPED FOR. MITREGA WAXED ELOQUENT AND DISCUSSED SEVERAL GENERAL TOPICS INCLUDING DEPENDENCE ON FOREIGN FUEL SOURCES. HE NOTED CRITICALLY THAT THE FRENCH HAD

BECOME TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON THE ARAB WORLD FOR OIL SUPPLIES. FRENCH DEPENDENCE WAS TWO-FOLD, ON ARAB WORLD AND ON UNITED STATES. HE STATED THAT FRENCH FEARED FIRST BUT NOT SECOND. HE SAID DEMANDS OF ARAB STATES MAY EASILY BECOME EXCESSIVE AND SAID POLAND FAVORED ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY OF KIND RECENTLY ADVOCATED BY PRESIDENT NIXON.

5. HE REFERRED POINTEDLY TO DECEMBER, 1970 AS A GREAT HISTORICAL TURNING POINT FOR POLAND. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD DRAWN LESSON OF NEED FOR GREATER DEMOCRACY AND HAS SINCE MADE GREAT ATTEMPTS TO GAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF POLISH WORKERS AND TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY. HE FREQUENTLY CITED GIEREK'S MOTTO: PRODUCTIVITY EQUALS HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING." MITREGA SAID THAT UNDER PRESENT FIVE-YEAR PLAN CAPITAL INVESTMENT HAS REACHED A HISTORICAL HIGH OF ONE HUNDRED BILLION ZLOTYS. HE ASSERTED THAT SUCH AN INVESTMENT MADE POSSIBLE IN PAST BY CREDITS FROM USSR AND HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE RECENT DEVELOPMENT OF POLISH ECONOMY OWED MUCH TO FIRM FOUNDATION LAID BY PRESIDENT NIXON DURING HIS VISIT TO POLAND IN 1972. HE AGREED WITH MR. RUSH THAT HIGH-LEVEL VISITS WERE VERY IMPORTANT AND HE EXPECTED HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES TO BE ANOTHER SMALL BUILDING-BLOCK IN EDIFICE OF BETTER US-POLISH RELATIONS. RUSH

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